

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORKING SESSION
DECEMBER 12, 2014
TOWN HALL
2:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David A. Smith, Jr., Chairman
Nadine A. Hawver, Clerk
Rene C. Wood

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

USE OF THE SENIOR CENTER:

Administrator LaBombard asked the Board to review the proposed usage policy that was drafted in 2010, but never approved. It was the consensus of the Board that the COA review the policy after which the Board will place it on a future agenda for approval. Discussion ensued regarding who would approve the usage requests. It was the consensus that the Executive Director of the COA would schedule the usage of the Center.

BRTA PILOT PROGRAM:

Discussion ensued regarding the pilot program that has been proposed by BRTA for workforce bussing. Selectman Wood will discuss this program with the Director of BRTA next week.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON TOWN OWNED PROPERTY:

Selectman Hawver would like to ask the Housing Commission to explore options of Town owned land for first time home buyers. Discussion ensued. Selectman Hawver volunteered to write a charge for the Housing Commission.

PLANNING BOARD – SOLAR BYLAW:

Planning Board Chairman James T. Collingwood Jr. was present to update the Board on the Planning Board's review and proposal for a solar bylaw. The Planning Board hopes to have a solar bylaw to place on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant in May. Discussion ensued regarding the three public hearings that will be held next week regarding zoning changes.

PARK LANE – INQUIRY FROM HOMEOWNERS:

A letter has been received from Attorney Courtney Lane who is representing residents on Park Lane regarding a shared drive to their homes. Ms. Lane has requested a meeting with Administrator LaBombard to discuss options. According to the Town Meeting accepting Park Lane as a public way, the description of the road ends in a circular turnabout. It was the consensus of the Board to send the letter to Town Counsel for a reply.

REPRESENTATIVE FOR SCHOOL UNION NEGOTIATIONS:

A letter was received from SBRSD Superintendent David Hastings that a meeting would be held on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 6 pm to discuss a five town representative for school union negotiations. Due to a Council on Aging meeting Chairman Smith and Selectmen Hawver will be unable to attend. Selectman Wood will plan on attending the school meeting.

LETTER FROM RESIDENT REGARDING THE SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR:

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A letter was received from a resident regarding the Senior Center Director and the decision to abolish the part-time position. Administrator LaBombard provided a draft response. Selectman Wood requested an amendment to the letter and it was the consensus that the letter be sent signed by Chairman Smith and Selectman Wood. Selectman Hawver recued herself from the discussion.

BSC GROUP CONTRACT:

The BSC Group sent a contract for signature for their management of the Mass Works Grant. It was the consensus of the Board to forward the contract to Town Counsel for review.

Selectman Wood reported that the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee would not have a report to the Board as charged, but would have that report ready in January.

Selectman Wood moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargain strategy for the Sheffield Patrolman's Association contract and to not return to Open Session, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The roll call vote was as follows:

Chairman Smith – aye

Selectman Hawver – aye

Selectman Wood – aye

The Board entered Executive Session at 3:10 pm.

Selectman Hawver moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Town Administrator

Documents reviewed:
Draft Senior Center Usage Policy
Solar Bylaw Drafted by BRPC
Solar Bylaw Adopted by the Town of Cheshire
Letter from Attorney Courtney Lane
Letter from Sally Cook
Contract from BSC Group
Letter from David Hastings